

REMARKS

The 11 August 2004 official action addressed claims 1-2, 5-14, 17-51, 54-62 and 65-71. Claims 25-46 and 47-49 are canceled. Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 13, 17, 18, 19, 50, 51, 61 and 62 are amended.

Overview of amendments

Independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended to describe television program production wherein script data and rundown data are obtained prior to broadcast of the program, the script data and rundown data are processed to identify individual segments of the program prior to the broadcast of the program, closed caption data including timing data for the segments is created, and then the closed caption data is transmitted concurrently with broadcast of the program.

Claims 5-7 and 17-19 are amended to be consistent with these claims.

Independent claims 50 and 61 are amended to describe television program production wherein rundown data for a television program is obtained prior to broadcast of the program, the rundown data is processed to identify individual segments of the program prior to broadcast of the program, and a video signal including timing data indicating the beginning of each individual segment is then broadcast.

Claims 51 and 62 are revised to recite a limitation previously recited in claims 50 and 61.

Claims 25-46 and 47-49 are canceled.

No new matter is added.

Response to objections and rejections

Claims 1-2, 5, 7-14, 17, and 19-24, and claims 50-51, 54-62 and 65-71, were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Hullinger (U.S. 6,442,518) in view of Henmi (U.S. 5,390,027).

Claims 1 and 13

Independent claims 1 and 13 describe television program production wherein script data and rundown data are obtained prior to broadcast of the program, the script data and rundown data are processed to identify individual segments of the program prior to broadcast of the program, closed caption data including timing data for the segments is created, and then the closed caption data including the timing data for individual segments is transmitted concurrently with broadcast of the program.

Hullinger describes a system that records a television news program broadcast and then parses the news program based on analysis of the closed caption text. Hullinger fails to teach or suggest the ***definition of individual segments of the television program prior to broadcast***, followed by production of ***closed caption data that includes timing data for the individual segments*** and transmission of that closed caption data ***concurrently with the broadcast***. In addition, Hullinger fails to teach or suggest the processing of ***rundown data*** to define individual segments of the program. An example of rundown data is provided in the specification at Figure 4 and the corresponding text.

Henmi describes a VCR device that records television programs based on timing data that is included in the closed caption data of the television program. Henmi fails to teach or suggest the ***definition of individual segments of the television program prior to broadcast***, followed by production of ***closed caption data that includes timing data for the individual segments*** and transmission of that closed caption data ***concurrently with the broadcast***. In addition, Henmi fails to teach or suggest the processing of ***rundown data*** to define individual segments of the program. In regard to the reference in the official action to Figure 1b of Henmi, this figure shows a program data table that includes start and end times for whole television programs rather than for individual segments of television programs (see col. 8, first full paragraph).

Even when combined, the teachings of Hullinger and Henmi lack several features required by the claims, including the processing of rundown data to define individual segments of a television program, the identification of individual segments prior to broadcast, and the creation and transmission of closed caption data that includes timing data for individual segments of the program. Therefore these claims and their dependent claims are allowable for at least these reasons.

Claims 50 and 61

Independent claims 50 and 61 describe television program production wherein rundown data for a television program is obtained prior to broadcast of the program, the rundown data is processed to identify individual segments of the program, and a video signal including timing data indicating the beginning of each individual segment is broadcast.

As noted above, Hullinger describes a system that records a television news program broadcast and then parses the news program based on analysis of the closed caption text. Hullinger fails to teach or suggest the ***identification of individual segments of the television program prior to broadcast***, followed by broadcasting a video signal representing the television program that includes ***data indicating the beginnings of individual segments of the program***. In addition, Hullinger fails to teach or suggest obtaining ***rundown data*** for the program prior to broadcast or ***processing rundown data to identify individual segments*** of the program.

As also noted above, Henmi describes a VCR device that records television programs based on timing data that is included in the closed caption data of the television program. Henmi fails to teach or suggest the ***identification of individual segments of the television program prior to broadcast***, followed by broadcasting a video signal representing the television program that includes ***data indicating the beginnings of individual segments of the program***. Henmi also fails to teach or

suggest obtaining ***rundown data*** for the program prior to broadcast or ***processing rundown data to identify individual segments*** of the program.

Even when combined, the teachings of Hullinger and Henmi lack several features required by the claims, including the use of rundown data to identify individual segments of a television program, the identification of individual segments prior to broadcast, and the broadcasting of a video signal that includes timing data for individual segments of the program. Therefore these claims and their dependent claims are allowable for at least these reasons.

The foregoing amendments and remarks address all bases for objection and rejection and are believed to place the case in condition for allowance. The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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